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1911

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No. 4

TRANSACTIONS
OF THE
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MICROSCOPICAL
SOCIETY

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1911

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Secretary is pleased to state that more new Members and Subscribers have already been enlisted during the year 1911 than in any other year of the Society's history. With one month of work still ahead there is no question that we shall pass well beyond the 100 mark before the Annual Meeting.

The Society does not hold itself responsible for the opinions expressed by members in its published *Transactions* unless endorsed by a special vote

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OFFICIAL NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

AT

WASHINGTON, D. C., DEC. 27-30, 1910

IN CONNECTION WITH THE A. A. A. S.

The Meetings of the American Microscopical Society will be limited to business sessions. Our members will offer their papers in the sessions of Sections of the American Association and of the similar Societies in Washington and Princeton.

Owing to the fact that many of our members expect to attend the meeting of the Zoologists and Naturalists at Princeton, the meeting of the A. M. S. will probably occur on *Wednesday, Dec. 27, or Friday, Dec. 29.*

Members will be notified by letter of the exact arrangements.

Business of extraordinary importance to the future of the Society will be considered at this meeting, and members are urged to be present.

DEPARTMENT OF SUMMARIES

TO BE DEVOTED TO DIGESTS OF PROGRESS IN BIOLOGY

While the *Transactions* will continue to be primarily a Journal of research in micro-biology, it is recognized that the field has become so broad as to preclude the possibility of frequent articles in any one of the departments of special interest. Because of this it will be the policy to present, from time to time, supplementary digests of the progress being made in the various fields of micro-biology. It is also proposed to introduce similar summaries of the progress made in some departments not represented in our articles of research. This is done with the feeling that such reviews will increase the permanent value of the *Transactions* to all who may not have access to a large list of technical biological journals, nor the time to make the survey for themselves.

SUMMARIES IN MICRO-BIOLOGY

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

For some months the Secretary has been planning to secure for this Journal and its Department of Summaries, a series of papers from biologists dealing with the chief groups of microscopic plants and animals. It has not been the purpose to present a complete survey of any of the groups. The wish has been rather to bring together in one article a statement of the following things:—general biology, the method of finding, the methods of capture and of keeping alive and cultivating in the laboratory; how best to study; the general technic; the most accessible literature; and a brief outline of the classification, with keys for the identification of at least the more representative genera and species of the micro-organisms likely to be found by the beginning students in the United States.

It has been felt that the getting together of such data as this, while not a contribution to science, would be a contribution especially to isolated workers and to teachers and students in the high schools and smaller colleges.

There has been sufficient reserve on the part of the members invited to take part in this work to make it apparent that the Secretary, in order to go convincingly to others, must himself show his willingness to join in the effort necessary to make the movement a success. This same reserve has made necessary that the paper on the freshwater Oligochetes shall appear first.

It is proposed to have papers from time to time until the more common American species of groups, such as those that follow, have been covered: the Blue-green Algae, the Confervoid Algae, the Conjugatae, the Siphonae, the water Molds, the common saprophytic microscopic Fungi, the Rhizopods, Infusoria, Turbellaria, Bryozoa, freshwater Oligocheta, Water mites, Entomostraca, etc.